



EPSI National Webinar

Italy

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Financial opportunities

Online Event - 24 September 2020

Presentation Aims

- Highlight the opportunities and constraints of Cohesion Policy funds
- Briefly describe the situation in Italy and how to find out more
- Beginning to exploit the opportunities

Basic Structure

- EU Framework
 - ERDF & ESF+ Regulations
- National Partnership Agreement
- National & Regional Programmes
 - Smart Specialisation Strategy

Sport is not supported by Cohesion Policy funds, as such. It must contribute to achieving Cohesion aims.

Cohesion Objectives

- **PO1 A Smarter Europe, through innovation, digitisation, economic transformation and support to small and medium-sized businesses**
- **PO2 A Greener, carbon free Europe, implementing the Paris Agreement and investing in energy transition, renewables and the fight against climate change**
- **PO3 A more Connected Europe, with strategic transport and digital networks**
- PO4 A more Social Europe, delivering on the European Pillar of Social Rights and supporting quality employment, education, skills, social inclusion and equal access to healthcare
- PO5 A Europe closer to citizens, by supporting locally-led development strategies and sustainable urban development across the EU.

Conditions: Thematic concentration

ERDF

- 60% of investment in PO1
- Together, 85% of investment in PO1 and PO2
- 6% dedicated to sustainable urban development

ESF+

- 25% of spending on promoting social inclusion and tackling poverty
- For countries with high NEETS, 10 - 15%
- Up to 5% devoted to Innovative Actions

Enabling conditions: e.g. Smart Specialisation

The situation in Italy

- Italian authorities still in discussion with the Commission
- “Unifying themes” for Italian Programmes:
 - quality work
 - natural resources for future generations
 - standardisation and quality in services for citizens
 - culture as a vehicle for economic and social cohesion
- Development of National and Regional Programmes
- Funds remaining from 2014 – 20 programming period

The situation in Italy

- OpenCoesione portal:

<https://opencoessione.gov.it/it/>

- Vehicle for:
 - Consultation
 - Detailed information about past Cohesion Fund spending
 - Announcement of calls
 - Cohesion News

What to do now?

- Identify opportunities in Programmes, as currently drafted (note the four themes)
- Identify intermediaries delivering Programmes and get to know them
- Consider how far it is still possible to influence Programmes
- Remember the main priorities of Cohesion Funds and develop ideas about responding to them
- Start to develop a comprehensive Active Development approach to integrate sport into economic & social development

What to do now?

- Seek alliances in related sectors (tourism, culture and creative industries etc.)
- Identify potential project partners and start to formulate proposals
- Identify potential sources of matching funding required
- Discuss outline proposals with Managing Authorities and other interested parties
- Remember 2014 – 20 funding